

MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
CONTINUUM OF CARE PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 10, 2007

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Annette Stein, Maricopa County, Chair  
\*Robert Duvall, Community Information and Referral  
Dick Geasland, Tumbleweed  
\*Katie Hobbs, Sojourner Center  
\*Theresa James, City of Tempe, Vice Chair  
Tim Cole for Deanna Jonovich, City of Phoenix  
\*John Landrum, The Salvation Army  
\*Nick Margiotta, Phoenix Police Department  
\*Ric Mason, Labor's Community Service Agency  
\*Elizabeth Morales, AZ Behavioral Health Corporation  
Darlene Newsom, United Methodist Outreach Ministries  
\*Amy Schwabenlender, Valley of the Sun United Way  
Laura Skotnicki, Save the Family  
Michelle Thomas, YWCA

\*John Wall, CASS  
Lisa Wilson, City of Mesa  
Margaret Cordova for Diana Yazzie Devine, Native American Connections

OTHERS PRESENT

DeDe Gaisthea, MAG  
Christy Gibbons, HomeBase Yth Services  
Mike Levy, NOVA Inc.  
Paul Ludwick, Maricopa County  
Christopher Magee, Recovery Innovations AZ  
Brande Mead, MAG  
Linda Mushkatel, Maricopa County  
Amy St. Peter, MAG  
Brenda Robbins, AZ DHS  
Jacki Taylor, ACEH

\*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

+Present by audio or videoconference.

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Chair Stein, Maricopa County, called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. and introductions ensued.

2. Approval of the October 22, 2007 Meeting Minutes

Chair Stein noted that quorum was not met. She announced that the approval of the minutes would be postponed until the next Continuum of Care Planning Subcommittee meeting.

3. Call to the Audience

No comments were made by the audience.

4. Appreciative Inquiry Introduction and Interview

Chair Stein introduced Amy St. Peter, MAG, who provided an introduction on Appreciative Inquiry (AI). Ms. St. Peter began by giving a brief introduction of AI, the purpose of AI and on how to conduct peer-to-peer interviews. She stated the interviews

will form the foundation for both the AI Workshop and the development of the Regional Plan to End Homelessness.

Ms. St. Peter stated that the purpose of using the AI process is to re-energize the Committee and to inform the development of the plan. The focus is a strengths-based approach to create solutions and to build partnerships necessary to implement the plan. She added that AI is the study and exploration of human systems when they are at their best. She explained that AI will be used to conduct pre-interviews for the workshop on January 7th. Ms. St. Peter explained the 4-D AI cycle as having these elements: discovery, understanding the issue, dream, the idea of what it will take, design, the steps to take, and destiny, what it will take to get there.

Ms. St. Peter noted that using the AI approach for the development of the plan is an innovation use of the method. However, she indicated that AI has had great success in a variety of fields. She provided a couple of examples of ways that AI was used successfully, including at the joint MAG Continuum of Care and Domestic Violence Council meeting with good discussion ensuing.

Ms. St. Peter explained that she would like members of the Planning Subcommittee to begin the AI interview process by interviewing each other, using the AI Pre-Interview Guide handed out. She asked that members choose a partner to interview and to take notes for discussion.

Ms. St. Peter brought the members together after the interviews and inquired on the process. The group agreed the process was enjoyable and provided members an opportunity to know more about each other. Brenda Robbins commented that the process validated dedication among members at the table. The group noted that a collaboration effort between committee members and the opportunity of having various organizations at one table is necessary to keep moving projects forward. Ms. St. Peter agreed that creating and developing relationships between organizations is critical in seeing projects through.

Ms. St. Peter stated that the next step is for committee members to conduct interviews with committee stakeholders. She indicated that the interview questions will be emailed out to members. She asked that members submit their interview summaries to Brande Mead once they are completed. The information received from the forms will be incorporated into the plan. Ms. St. Peter thanked the members for their participation in the process and encouraged everyone to attend the AI workshop with Amanda Trosten-Bloom on January 7<sup>th</sup> at the Arizona Biltmore.

##### 5. Continuum of Care Annual Appreciation Luncheon and Appreciative Inquiry Workshop

Chair Stein introduced Brande Mead, MAG, who provided an update on the Continuum of Care Annual Appreciation Luncheon and Appreciative Inquiry Workshop. Ms. Mead stated that the events will be held on Monday, January 7, 2008. She invited members to participate and to also recommend a person for the Star Award. The Star Award recipient

should be a person who has shown exemplary commitment to the topic of homelessness and will be recognized at the luncheon. Ms. St. Peter noted for members to please register early the workshop is limited to 50 and priority will be given to community members only.

6 Comments from the Planning Subcommittee

Tim Cole, City of Phoenix, reminded encouraged members to participate in the City of Phoenix Homeless Street Count.

Dick Geasland mentioned that the Tumbleweed Drop In Gallery will be open next Friday at 917 N 5<sup>th</sup> Street and encouraged members to attend.

Jacki Taylor stated that a parcel of land is available at Second Avenue and Fillmore. The size of the parcel is 21,000 square feet and preference for the land is for homeless providers. Ms. Taylor said she would email additional information to the group about the land.

7. Adjourn

The next Continuum of Care Planning Subcommittee meeting will be on December 10, 2007, from 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. in the MAG Cholla Room. The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.